

STATE POLICE ARE CALLED TO SOLVE CASE IN REDDING

Property Long Time a Business Landmark Changes Hands.

Redding, July 15.—The burglary and murder case of Pine Tree Corner is now in the hands of the state police, whose aid was secured by the local authorities after the latter's failure to get conclusive results from an investigation carried on with the best means at their command. Two of the police came here on Monday and with Selectman Barnes and Sheriff Banks visited the scene of the crime and, exhaustively questioned Mrs. Sherwood, the victim, making also a close examination of the premises in a quest for possible clues. The woman's statement was practically a repetition of those she had formerly made and included her confident assertion that her husband, from whom she is separated, was not one of the guilty persons. There had been advanced the theory that he might have been with a desire to secure the considerable sum Mrs. Sherwood was reported to have in the house as his original motive. The visiting officers left without questioning the local parties formerly under suspicion. This may come later as it is understood the new investigation will be further pursued, a fact indicating that the state police do not regard the case as hopeless.

The spirit and aims of the local fire department, recently reorganized, are altruistic, co-operative and as comprehensive, territorially and otherwise, as to the service rendered as conditions will permit. Hence it is regrettable that two or three residents of the Center, who persist in misunderstanding the situation, are playing an obstructive role relative to the inclusion of their locality as an integral part of the fire district. Apparently they have taken umbrage because the company decided not to locate one of its three engines in the Center, and talk of seceding, one man, disunion and similar nonsense. These kickers also declare that they are able to furnish their own fire protection without help from the Ridge people. All of which shows a petty, sectional spirit, wholly unbecoming to the logic and one believed not to be the real sentiment of the Center community. Inasmuch as the present engines were bought with money furnished by the Ridge, or eastern district, residents, it was deemed right that this section should retain them. At the same time the Ridge has been, and is willing to answer calls from the Center. The idea was that the Center should also have a machine of its own, which could receive notice in the matter of service. If the Center folks cannot raise all the purchase price at once, the company will lend it credit, being an incorporated body. Should the Center choose to remain under the present fire district limits will be rearranged accordingly, but it is a case where the Center needs the Ridge much more than the Ridge needs the Center and the present tension between them will probably work out to a conclusion based on this view.

An interesting and important real estate transaction was effected Tuesday afternoon in the sale by John M. Sullivan of Bridgeport to Charles Perry of Weston of the former's residential and store property at the lower part of the Ridge. Mr. Sullivan's asking price on the property has been \$4,000 and while the terms of the deal are not given out, it is a fairly good guess that the consideration finally agreed upon approximates \$3,500. Mr. Perry also purchased the stock of goods in the store and will promptly take possession and carry on the business. The place is one of the old business landmarks of the town, having been used for merchandising for close to a century. Before the Civil War the Fenton Brothers had a shirt manufactory in the main building and also carried on a store. They have had many successors, one of those having the longest term of continuous occupancy being Mr. Sullivan. After running the business for about twenty years, he removed to Bridgeport some half dozen years since, renting the store to Aaron and Ernest Sanford. They were followed by Greenbaum & Klein, also renters, and when the latter firm quit after a two years' stay, Mr. Sullivan resumed charge of the business with his brother Frank as partner. The new owner of the property sold his farm in Weston last winter to the Bridgeport Hydraulic Co. for between \$5,000 and \$7,000. Those who know him express satisfaction that the old store has fallen into such good hands.

Preparations for the annual supper and sale of fancy articles, grab bags, home-made candy and cake, and one very unusual feature, are rapidly nearing completion. The day set, Thursday, July 22nd, is only a week off, but the Ladies Aid society of Christ's church, Redding Ridge, hope to have everything in readiness for a fair even better than that of last year which was unusually successful. The committees are as follows: Supper, Mrs. A. G. Barnett, Mrs. Randolph Bradley, Miss Lucy Sanford, Miss Belle Sanford, Miss Dora Goodale, Mrs. W. C. Sanford, Mrs. Boerum; fancy table, Mrs. D. S. Sanford, Mrs. E. P. Sanford, Mrs. James Aldrich; Japanese table, Mrs. Frederick M. Wess; grab bag, Mrs. Cunningham; Miss E. M. Dayton; candy, Mrs. Francis Hamlin, Miss Katharine Barnett, Miss Annie Banks.

The fair will be open both afternoon and evening. One special department will consist of a collection which J. W. Teets has been making for the past year in this country and Europe. It comprises curios and utility articles in great variety, each possessing an element of distinction adding to its attractiveness or value. All are to be on sale. Another special feature will be a collection of historical relics associated with the Rev. John Beach, the pioneer mission clergyman who founded the Episcopal parishes in Redding and Newtown. Those having such relics are invited to send them to the rector or D. S. Sanford, who will see that they are cared for and returned.

Judge Woodman of Bethel, who was recently made administrator on the estate of Banks Osborn of Georgetown, has found a shortage of \$200 in the accounts of J. H. Duncan, his predecessor. Like Mr. Duncan's shortage of \$2,100 as tax collector, the exact division of funds is ascribed to his mental infirmity and what became of the money in both instances

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OUR NEWTOWN NEWS LETTER

(Special to The Farmer.)

Newtown, July 15.—The selectmen are confronted by a perplexing problem. Highway Commissioner Bennett claims the right to call upon the town for about \$5,000, unexpended balance from the total amount voted by the town for state road work in the past. The presumption is that he proposes to use the money to pay the town's share on the proposed improvements on the Sugar street link of the state road system. As the town never voted to make a state road of this strip, the selectmen say they cannot see how the commissioner can claim the money for this purpose. This money was never raised by taxing and hence is not in the treasury, and to order it done now they maintain the claim could be satisfied only by borrowing. The selectmen are averse to this course.

The Girls' Friendly society met Wednesday for their monthly picnic at the home of Miss Dorothy James of Hawleyville. The young women

walked to their picnic grounds. Everyone reports an enjoyable time and returned many thanks to Miss James. Mrs. William A. Leonard and daughter Charles, accompanied by William Leonard, went yesterday to New York for several days, the guests of friends.

The Avon Baseball club of Bridgeport will play the Sandy Hook team Sunday at 2:30 p. m.

The singing school under the direction of Mrs. A. W. Daniels will present a musical soon. Rehearsals are progressing rapidly and much enthusiasm is shown.

Among those who visited in Danbury today were Mrs. A. W. Daniels, Miss Christine Corbett, W. A. Honan and Miss Anna Ruffels.

Newton Curtis, the peach orchardist of Curtis Hill, is unloading an invoice of 20,000 peach baskets this week, to be prepared for the largest prospective crop in his experience.

Ell B. Beers spent yesterday in Bridgeport.

Robert Lynch and Ed McLean of Monroe were in town yesterday to claim moneys in the Newtown Savings Bank which they maintain are unclaimed deposits of relatives in the bank for 20 years or more and they are heirs or next of kin of these depositors. The officials will examine the

claims, and the law in the matter before acting upon these demands, as it is a mooted question whether such disbursements of unclaimed deposits can be paid without an order from the judge of probate. As many of these deposits are for less than \$10, it is thought the costs of probating will more than exhaust the credits in many instances. In all such cases, it looks as if the intent of the law will be defeated, and neither the bank nor the claimants benefited.

Miss Alice Mella of Bridgeport is visiting friends in town.

Fishing parties are, enjoying that sport daily at Fountain Lake, while the farmers are trying to gather in the hay crop between showers.

Town Clerk Oscar Pitzschler is now able to visit the office every day for an hour, and was able to attend the town meeting yesterday.

Signor Barzilai, a Republican member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, will be appointed a member of the Ministry without portfolio to deal with questions concerning the newly occupied territories, which may arise.

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